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May 23, 2002

AFTER FINAL

FAX RECEIVED  
 MAY 23 2002  
 GROUP 1700

OFFICIAL

To: Examiner M. Alvo  
 Group Art Unit 1731  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office

Re: United States Patent Application No. 08/907,687  
 Title: Method of Pretreating Lignocellulose Fiber-Containing  
 Material for the Pulp Making Process  
 Inventor: Marc J. Sabourin  
 Our Ref.: ANDR/346/US

FAX: (703) 872-9311

FROM: L. JAMES RISTAS, ESQ.

MESSAGE: Attached please find a Request for Clarification for the subject patent application.

NUMBER OF PAGES BEING TRANSMITTED 3 page(s) including cover sheet.

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#29/BM  
5-28-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Marc SABOURIN

Application No.: 08/907,687

Examiner: M. Alvo

Filing Date: August 8, 1997

Group Art Unit: 1731

For: **Method of Pretreating Lignocellulose Fiber Containing  
Material for the Pulp Making Process**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

**REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF ADVISORY ACTION**

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Advisory Action for the subject application, dated May 14, 2002, according to which the Affidavit and Request for Reconsideration submitted by applicant were considered but did not place the application in condition for allowance. The examiner stated that these papers did not place the application in condition for allowance because, in essence, the claimed invention is obvious over the disclosure of the CEDERQUIST patent, for the reasons set forth in the final rejection.

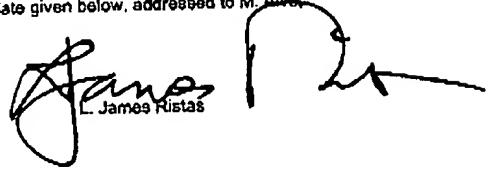
Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on April 11, 2002, and in the interest of economy and efficiency for applicant, the examiner and the Board, applicant hereby requests clarification as to the issues that remain open for appeal. In particular, applicant requests clarification as to (1) whether the amendments filed April 11, 2002, were entered for purposes of Appeal and (2) whether the rejection under 35 USC §112 first paragraph has been withdrawn.

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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

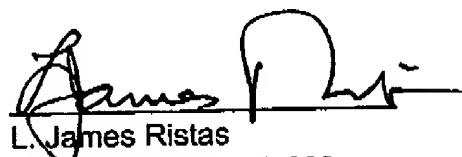
Date:

May 23, 2002

  
James Ristas

Inasmuch as the due date for filing the Appeal Brief is June 11, 2002, applicant request a prompt reply from the examiner to this request for clarification.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marc SABOURIN



L. James Ristas  
Registration No. 28,663  
Alix, Yale & Ristas LLP  
Attorney for Applicant

Date: May 23, 2002  
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